

Patzlaff To Perform In Yankton Tuesday

Jeff Patzlaff will be the guest concert at this Tuesday's Yankton Area Summer Band concert at the Riverside Park amphitheater.

Patzlaff teaches the band program in Platte. He has been teaching in the Platte School system since 1988 and previously taught music in Woonsocket.

Summer Band concert rehearsals begin at 6:30 p.m. for all volunteer musicians interested in playing and the concert will begin promptly at 8:00 p.m.

For late changes due to weather, listen to the radio stations: WNAX, 570 AM; KYNT, 1450 AM or KVHT, 106.3 FM. You can also find more information by visiting the Yankton Area Arts website at www.YanktonAreaArts.org. Changes to will be posted by 4 p.m.

For more information on Yankton Area Arts call (605) 665-9754 or visit www.YanktonAreaArts.org.

Freeman Hosts Arts Workshop June 26

FREEMAN — A Creative Arts Workshop is being provided by Freeman Academy Saturday, June 26, running from 9-11:30 a.m. for children in grades 4-8 (2010-2011 school year).

The morning will consist of three sessions: visual art with Joe Mason, musical rhythm with Amy Hofer-Vetch, and dance as it pertains to musical theater with Kathryn Reimler.

All of the sessions will be held in the Music Hall building on the Freeman Academy campus.

Register early as space is limited. There is no charge for the event but you must pre-register by Wednesday, June 23.

For more information and to register, contact Bonnie Young at byoung@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237 ext 225.

Dressings Are For Salads, Not Belts

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
Belt dressings? Yes or no? I heard on your radio show this week not to spray belt dressings on serpentine belts. I recently was told to use belt dressings on my serpentine belt by a mechanic. He said it would increase the longevity of the belt — replacing the lost oils and keeping it more flexible and, therefore, increasing the life of the belt. Why is this not good on today's belts? — Bruce

TOM: Well, I've found that dressings tend to expand MY belts. Especially Newman's Own. That's why I've switched to the Light Italian.

RAY: The problem with belt dressings is that they're temporary solutions. They just cover up a problem, rather than solve it.

TOM: Most belt dressings contain either a lubricant of some kind, to allow the belt to slip more, or a tacking agent, to allow the belt to grip more.

RAY: The problem is that these agents —



CLICK & CLACK

and the solvents that are used as spray-can propellants — can cause modern belts to swell and delaminate. Belts are made of several layers of rubber, and when they delaminate, these layers come apart and the belt fails.

TOM: In most cases, when a belt is making noise, it's because it needs to be tightened or needs to be replaced. Belt noise also can be caused by a bad belt tensioner or a misaligned pulley. But belt dressing isn't going to address any of those problems in the long term.

RAY: Of course, if you know for a fact that your belt is just old and worn out — and it's not a tension, tensioner or pulley problem — and the noise is driving you nuts, and you just want to keep the belt quiet for a couple of weeks until your in-laws leave town, then spray all the dressing you want on it.

TOM: But I don't know of any maker of serpentine belts that approves of belt dressing for its products. And it's a short-term band-aid at best. So dress your salads, and tighten or replace squealing belts, Bruce.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

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ENERGY

From Page 1A

good news for alternative energy, lnnen said.

"The president spoke about the importance of renewable energy, including biofuels," lnnen said. "Ethanol will profit from that effort."

In a news release, the NCGA said increased use of biofuels in future years will improve the U.S. economy and environment in the following ways:

- displace around 13.6 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel;
- decrease oil imports by \$41.5 billion;
- produce additional energy security benefits of \$2.6 billion;
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 138 metric tons;
- increase net farm income by \$13 billion (more than 36 percent).

"We're pleased the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognizes that corn ethanol provides a distinct advantage over conventional gasoline when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions, with a reduction of more than 21 percent in some cases," lnnen said.

However, the ethanol industry ran into at least a temporary roadblock this week. The EPA again delayed the decision on approval of higher blends of ethanol for use in conventional vehicles. Six months have passed since the EPA was statutorily required to announce a decision on higher blends.

South Dakota and Nebraska congressional members have criticized the delay. Industry leaders, producers and consumers say the delay harms ethanol production by increasing uncertainty about federal mandates and future demand.

Richardson criticized this week's EPA announcement of a delay.

"The Obama administration said they would have a decision by spring or early summer," she said. "Now, they are saying this fall. We are tired of the stalling."

Currently, the EPA limits ethanol from being blended with gasoline above E-10 — 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline — for use in non-flex fuel engines.

In effect, not approving higher blends amounts to holding back growth of the ethanol industry, Richardson said.

"As far as approval of E-15, we have become tired of talking about mandates (for ethanol)," she said. "Right now, we have a 90 percent mandate of petroleum (in fuel)."

Without moving to a higher blend, ethanol will be arbitrarily capped, industry officials say. The situation will result in what is known as the "blend wall" — the point when ethanol production will exceed market demand

due to the E-10 limitation. Approval of E-15 would create as many as 136,000 new jobs and reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil, industry officials say.

The ethanol blend wall would create an additional burden because the 2007 federal energy bill requires the production and use of 36 billion gallons of renewable fuel by 2022, they say.

The industry has conducted testing that shows the safety and efficiency of higher blends, Richardson said. By receiving the approval for higher blends, the ethanol industry can obtain access to new markets, she said.

That's especially important at a time when Americans are driving smaller vehicles and traveling fewer miles because of the economy, Richardson said.

"We need more access to the American public," she said. "We are looking for more marketing opportunities."

Obtaining EPA approval for the higher blends is critical, lnnen said. He noted that POET, an internationally-recognized company with headquarters in Sioux Falls and one of its original plants in Scotland, has conducted cutting-edge research on ethanol. The industry has seen strides in cellulosic ethanol and other sources besides corn, he said.

FINDING THE RIGHT BLEND

lnnen also called for more flex-fuel vehicles that will make greater use of higher-blend fuels.

"The domestic car manufacturers are actually pretty good about producing more flex-fuel vehicles," he said. "It's the imports that aren't doing as well. We need to have more imports making flex-fuels."

lnnen also called for more blender pumps and more funding to provide the infrastructure for such pumps.

Blender pumps allow motorists to select the amount of ethanol in fuels, starting with the traditional 10 percent blend and moving up to blends of 20, 30 and 85 percent ethanol. Studies have shown that mid-level ethanol blends can improve the fuel efficiency of some vehicles. Flexible-fuel vehicles can operate on any blend of gasoline and ethanol.

This week, Lt. Gov. Dennis Daugaard spoke at a Yankton service station, announcing South Dakota will lead the nation in ethanol blender pump locations. The Yankton station is the first of the new blender pumps to begin operation.

A \$1 million grant program will put South Dakota at the front of the pack nationwide when it comes to the availability of ethanol blender pumps for motorists.

The grants, which were processed through the state Energy Policy Office in the Governor's Office of Economic Development, will help business owners install blender pumps at fuel stations across the state, he said.

At the start of the month, 157 service stations operated blender pumps in 14 states. With the additional stations, South Dakota will surpass Minnesota as the national leader in ethanol blender pumps.

The grants will result in installation of up to 100 blender pumps at 49 more fuel stations in 40 South Dakota communities. That will bring the total number of stations in the state with blender pumps to 90. One of the 42 stations that currently has a blender pump will replace it with a newer model and cannot be counted among the 49 additional stations.

The grants will allow blender pumps to be installed in a number of southeast South Dakota communities, including Corsica, Freeman, Menno, Parker, Tripp, Tyndall and Yankton.

Eligible retail fuel dealers qualified for grants of up to \$10,000 per pump to defray the cost of installing blender pumps. The new pumps can cost up to \$25,000 each.

Funds for the grant program were allocated to South Dakota through the stimulus funds. Richardson applauded the addition of more blender pumps in the state.

"We have an incredible program in South Dakota," she said. "We are the largest (blender pump operators) in the nation and leading the way in energy independence."

Now, more blender pumps are needed in heavily populated cities and states across the nation, she said.

MEETING THE DEMAND

Critics have questioned whether U.S. farmers can produce enough corn and other materials for growing and sustaining ethanol usage.

American producers have

shown they are more than up to the task, lnnen said.

"We are producing more bushels per acre. Our corn yield has doubled in the last 25 years," he said. "During the last 20 years, we have produced 21 percent more bushels of corn than is devoted to ethanol, leaving more than enough for livestock, our food supply and exports. We have enough corn to meet our food and fuel demands."

American farmers are producing record crops with less land, lnnen said. Corn yields have risen 26 bushels per acre in last two years alone, he said.

"In 2009, corn growers were challenged with one of the worst growing seasons in generations, and we still brought in a record crop and yield," he said. "We grew more corn than we did in 2007, the last record year, and we did so on nearly 7 million fewer acres."

U.S. producers raise one billion bushels of corn annually, with about one-third, or 330 million bushels, going toward ethanol production, Richardson said.

She saw demand for U.S. products during a tour of a famous Seattle public market and tourist attraction.

"I was at (Pike Place) Market, and people wanted to buy local and support America. Ethanol is made in America, it's environmentally safe, and it's a renewable resource," she said.

"America needs to use it. We have a real market, and it needs a shot in the arm (through legislation and growing markets)."

The BP oil spill has drawn attention not only to the damage itself but to all facets of the nation's energy policy, lnnen said. Ethanol and other renewable fuels need to be considered a cornerstone of the nation's defense policy, he said.

"We need laws to decrease our reliance on foreign oil and promote energy security," he said.

lnnen believes even better times lie ahead for the nation's crop producers and the ethanol industry.

"Farmers are the eternal optimists," he said. "You have to be an optimist to stay in this business."

Walgreen And CVS Strike New Deal To Avoid Split

NEW YORK (AP) — CVS Caremark Corp. and Walgreen Co. have settled a dispute that threatened to change where millions of Americans fill prescriptions.

The companies, which said Friday they have agreed on a multi-year deal but did not disclose its terms, were battling over the amounts Caremark reimburses Walgreen for filling prescriptions for Caremark patients.

Shares of both companies rose more than 3 percent in morning trading.

Walgreen and CVS do billions of dollars in business together every year, as Walgreen is the largest U.S. drugstore operator and CVS's Caremark is the third largest prescription benefits manager. It handled drug benefits for about 53 million people last year. At the same time, the CVS drug store chain is Walgreen's top competitor.

Last week, the companies said they would end their relationship and Walgreen would stop accepting Caremark insurance.

Walgreen, based in Deerfield, Ill., with more than 7,500 stores across the country, wanted Caremark to pay it more for filling prescriptions, and it wanted Caremark to drop policies encouraging members to fill prescriptions at CVS's 7,000 stores. Including the Walgreen and CVS chains, Caremark's national network includes more than 64,000 pharmacies.

Even before the companies' long-standing negotiations over contracts that go into effect next year broke down last week, however, not all Caremark patients could fill their prescriptions at all pharmacies in Caremark's network.

Caremark said last week that Walgreen was demanding unreasonable rates that would drive up health care costs for both Caremark patients and benefit sponsors like employers. It said it would stop letting its patients fill prescriptions at Walgreen July 9.

Millions of prescriptions and billions of dollars in sales hung in the balance. Most people whose prescriptions are managed by Caremark would have had to go to stores like CVS, Kroger or Safeway if they wanted to be reimbursed for their drug costs.

Walgreen said one in 10 prescriptions it fills is managed by Caremark. Those prescriptions bought in more than \$4.5 billion in revenue over the last year, or 7 percent of Walgreen's total revenue. Roughly two-thirds of Walgreen's revenue comes from filling prescriptions.

CVS's Caremark unit negotiates contracts with employers to insure their workers' drug benefits, and it pays pharmacies to fill prescriptions. It makes money by negotiating volume discounts and pocketing some of those savings.

Analysts said Caremark ran the risk of losing contracts with health plan sponsors who wanted their network to include the nation's largest chain of drug stores. Some said Caremark also could have lost business to rivals Medco Health Solutions and Express Scripts as a result of the dispute.

On June 7, Walgreen announced it wanted to bring a gradual end to its relationship with Woonsocket, R.I.-based CVS Caremark. Two days later, CVS Caremark upped the ante by saying it wanted to break up in a month.

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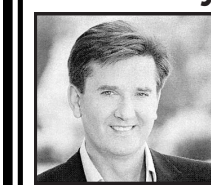
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